

# Myanmar

## Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

### FACT SHEET . . . . .



The Myanmar GYTS includes data on prevalence of cigarette and other tobacco use as well as information on five determinants of tobacco use: access/availability and price, environmental tobacco smoke exposure (ETS), cessation, media and advertising, and school curriculum. These determinants are components Myanmar could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Myanmar GYTS was a school-based survey of students in grades 8-10, conducted in 2001. A two-stage cluster

sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Myanmar. At the first stage, schools were selected with probability proportional to enrollment size. At the second stage, classes were randomly selected and all students in selected classes were eligible to participate. The school response rate was 96.0%, the student response rate was 88.2%, and the overall response rate was 84.7%. A total of 4721 students participated in the Myanmar GYTS.

### Prevalence

25.7% of students had ever smoked any tobacco product (Male = 44.2%, Female = 8.6%)  
 20.5% currently use any tobacco product (Male = 37.3%, Female = 4.7%)  
 15.7% currently smoke cigarettes (Male = 29.1%, Female = 3.1%)

### Knowledge and Attitudes

56.1% think boys and 22.1% think girls who smoke or chew tobacco have more friends  
 34.0% think boys and 21.5% think girls who smoke or chew tobacco look more attractive

### Access and Availability - Current Smokers

6.7% usually smoke at home  
 26.5% buy any form of smoking tobacco in a store  
 72.2% who bought any form of smoking tobacco in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

### Environmental Tobacco Smoke

53.7% live in homes where others smoke in their presence  
 58.4% are around others who smoke in places outside their home  
 81.8% think smoking should be banned from public places  
 29.8% think smoke from other people's tobacco products is harmful to them  
 60.3% have one or more parents who smoke  
 9.6% have most or all friends who smoke

### Cessation - Current Smokers

86.5% want to stop smoking  
 83.2% tried to stop smoking during the past year  
 75.4% have ever received help to stop smoking

### Media and Advertising

81.2% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days  
 75.6% saw pro-tobacco ads on billboards, in the past 30 days  
 67.8% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days  
 15.2% have an object with a tobacco brand logo  
 19.6% were offered free tobacco products by a tobacco company representative

### School

67.2% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking  
 33.4% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke  
 51.0% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

### Highlights

- 20% of students currently use any form of tobacco; 16% currently smoke cigarettes;
- ETS exposure is high – half of students live in homes where others smoke in their presence; almost 6 in 10 are exposed to smoke in public places; 6 in 10 have parents who smoke.
- 3 in 10 students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Over 8 in 10 students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- Over 8 in 10 smokers want to quit.
- 8 in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; 7 in 10 students saw pro-cigarette ads in the past 30 days.